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BETTY BEALE

Special to The Washington Star

**Education
Secretary Is
A 'Climber'**

"I've been buying gold for 10 years. I have tons of it," said Merv Griffin at the John Gardiner Tennis Ranch in Scottsdale, Ariz., last weekend.

Merv's handsome son Tony, tall, slender with black curly hair, showed up for the final evening of the tennis weekend benefit for the Hospice of the Valley in Phoenix when his father put on an unrehearsed, highly amusing show with the help of Carl Reiner who directed "Oh, God," and "The Jerk."

The unrehearsed entertainment at the final dinner, emceed by Merv Griffin, began with the Arthur Murphys dancing together, followed by "Red" Fay sashaying about the floor singing "Me and My Shadow," and presented Courroc plates to tennis winners, such as CIA Director Stansfield Turner who came in second in the guest doubles. After that Dr. Bob Albo of Oakland, Calif., surgeon for some of the big football teams, performed magic tricks with professional finesse. In between, Sen. Chuck Percy read a note from Sen. Jack Javits, who apologized for not taking part, as usual, in the Senators' Cup tournament.

Then came Reiner with an instant review of the show just witnessed, and it was a gem. About Percy's reading, he said it was a "brilliant impersonation of Sen. Kennedy making a speech. I have never heard such a halting performance in my life."

On Admiral Turner: "I was just wondering, can anyone really be effective who looks that much like Ted Knight?"

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